



Minutes of Great Barton Parish Council on Monday 17th August 2026 at 7.00pm

Councillor Maggie Dunn chaired the meeting along with Councillors, Peter Fisk, Andy Baker, Gwyn James, Rob Lillistone and Chris Power, and 5 members of the public were present.

1.	<u>Chairmans Welcome</u> Cllr Maggie Dunn welcomed everyone to the meeting and reminded everyone present that the public session is the opportunity for members of the public to raise any concerns. No fire alarms are scheduled, and the emergency exits were pointed out. Apologies received from Cllr Hopfensperger and Cllr Broughton i. There were no declarations of interest ii. No written requests for dispensation
2.	<u>Co-option to Vacancy of Office</u> Completed Councillor application forms for two candidates had been circulated to current Councillors. A discussion and vote were taken to co-opt Rob Lillistone and Chris Power as candidates. Proposed Councillor James and Seconded by Councillor Baker unanimous decision for both candidates. Acceptance of Office forms signed and dated.
3.	<u>Open Public Session</u> John (Allotments) reported ongoing issues caused by the lack of rainfall this year, which has significantly affected water availability on site. The Allotments Association is exploring projects to improve water recovery and on-site storage, including the use of IBC tanks. They advised that they are looking to submit a grant application to the Parish Council to support these improvements and a site visit was welcome. Council welcomed an application ahead of the next meeting. Cllr Fisk declared an interest.
4.	<u>Update on The Severalls (Land North East) Development – Open Session</u> Clerk advised Vistry have offered a site visit for councillors. 2 date options agreed to be put forward to Vistry. Cllr Fisk advised he had received his introduction letter from Vistry. Cllr Power advised the contact number doesn't go to the Gemma named on the letter. Chair Dunn confirmed no further updates from the Phase 2 Planning applications. All updates are correct on our website. However, we are expecting to have a development control meeting following our comments with West Suffolk Planning.
5.	<u>County Councillor Report from Cllr Hopfensperger</u> <i>Sent apologies</i>
6.	<u>District Councillor Report from Cllr Broughton</u> <i>Sent apologies</i>
7.	<u>To Sign the minutes of the Council meeting on Monday 20th July 2026</u> Cllr Baker proposed acceptance of the minutes to stand as an accurate record of the meeting. Seconded by Cllr James, agreed unanimously by those present.
8.	<u>To Sign the minutes of the EO Council meeting on Wednesday 29th July 2026</u> Cllr James proposed acceptance of the minutes to stand as an accurate record of the meeting. Seconded by Cllr Baker, agreed unanimously by those present.
9.	<u>Council considered completed planning applications</u> <i>No completed planning applications to consider</i>
10.	<u>Council to consider the following planning applications</u> DC/26/1001/HH – Highfields, Nacton Lane RE CON - Householder planning application - a. increase in the main roof ridge height by approximately 1.1 metres b. replace proposed dormer

Credits received	-
Payments made under S137*	-

Reserves Balances

GREAT BARTON PARISH COUNCIL RESERVES AS OF 14th August 2026						
RESERVE	AS of 12/06/2026	SPENT TO DATE	EARMARKED PROJECTS		CURRENT BALANCE	AVAILABLE TO SPEND
SMALL PROJECTS	£2,922.24	£698.00	None	£ -	£2,224.24	£2,224.24
LEGAL/CONSULTATION*	£13,095.41	£1,710.00	None	£ -	£11,385.41	£11,385.41
YOUTH PROJECT	£296.59		None	£ -	£296.59	£296.59
GENERAL	£12,657.47	£108.00	None	£ -	£12,549.47	£12,549.47
ALLOTMENTS	£60.00	£60.00		£ -	£0.00	£0.00
ASSET MAINTENANCE	£10,526.47	£376.96	None	£ -	£10,149.51	£10,149.51
ASSET ACQUISITION	£10,847.61		(Precept Budget of £456)	£ -	£10,847.61	£10,847.61
ICEPITS WOOD*	£16,119.55	£1,522.90	(Precept Budget of £2000)	£ -	£14,596.65	£14,596.65
S106 FUNDS	£10,024.00			£ -	£10,024.00	£10,024.00
TOTAL RESERVES	£76,549.34	£4,475.86		£ -	£72,073.48	£72,073.48

- c) Cllr James reviewed the Quarterly Bank Recs for Quarter 1 and signed off
- d) Council approved the cost at £70 per delegate to train new councillors. Proposed Cllr Baker Seconded Cllr James, all in favour.

Next council meet date changed in order to allow new councillors to undertake training. New date will be 28th September

- e) Council reviewed costs for hedge flailing at two locations on the A143 that do not meet criteria from SCC. Cllr James concerned at why PC should cover this and we need to decide a rational we are going to use. Cllr James happy to approve A143 Diomed Drive but not the A143 Bunbury to clear signs etc, if SCC don't deem fits criteria. Clerk to produce before next meeting.
- f) Clerk unable to provide quote as not back from Contractor. Next meeting.
- g) Council considered quotes from tree surgeons in relation to the works required in ice pits and on PC land. After reviewing value for money. Cllr Baker raised concerns about bats in T026 Tree. Clerk advised traffic management costs and permit costs are included within the quoted price. A brief ecology survey would be carried out prior to works commencing. Should they have any concerns regarding bats then we would consult with an ecologist who would advise on how to proceed. Discussion around splitting works, but due to cost and savings decision was made to award to one contractor. Cllr James proposed Gadd's, Seconded Cllr Baker, all in favour.
- h) Council considered quote from Clare Veal to tidy up village sign. Proposed Chair Dunn Seconded Cllr Power all in favour.
- i) Clerk advised we haven't had the quote yet to remove the sign from AMS. Cllr James advised he is meeting Matthew Fox of Highways on site to discuss the location of gate in query. Proposal is to use remove the gate and use on the Avenue with out putting a TMO in.

Cllr Fisk left at 8.53pm

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Non- Financial Items

Vicarage Farm Footpath - Clerk confirmed that the proposed footpath at Vicarage Farm to Livermere Road has now been approved. A further update will be provided once update to definitive map have been issued.

	Thurston Road to Icepits Wood - Letters have been sent to nearby residents as part of the consultation. Suffolk County Farms have set a consultation deadline of 31st August. Clerk has spoken with one resident who believed the route had already been approved; they were advised that it is still in consultation at this stage. Clerk will provide a full update at the next meeting. Positive comments have been received regarding this potential new link, particularly noting the wider benefits for residents at this end of the village. The route would offer safer access to the allotments, Icepits Wood and Elm Meadow without needing to use Green Lane or the Bunbury junction, both of which are fast, narrow and increasingly difficult for families and dog walkers. Cllr Baker queried Elm Meadow RE Firebreak. Clerk has been in contact with SCF requesting a fire break and he has no objection but due to BDNG they will need change area. In addition, fencing may be required if cut back.
13	<u>Chairman' and Councillor Reports</u>
14	<u>Correspondence not covered elsewhere</u>
	<u>Open Public Session – 10 Minutes</u>
	<u>items to be carried forward to next meeting</u> Date of next meeting – 28th September 2026 There being no further business the meeting finished at 21.10pm sign and date Print name Chairman Signed as confirmation that they are a true record.